

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 4-11, and 14-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Liebenow et al. (US Pub. No. 2002/0118175 A1).

The Examiner rejected claims 3 and 12-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly being unpatentable over Liebenow et al. in view of Gillespie et al. (US Pat. No. 6,414,671 B1).

Applicants respectfully traverse the §102 and §103 rejections with the following arguments.

35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 4-11, and 14-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(c) as allegedly being anticipated by Liebenow et al. (US Pub. No. 2002/0118175 A1).

Applicant respectfully contends that Liebenow does not anticipate claims 1 and 11, because Liebenow does not teach each and every feature of claims 1 and 11. For example, Liebenow does not teach "means for adjusting a first pressure threshold of said touch pad, below which said display is dormant and above which finger positions on said touch pad are displayed".

Based on the preceding argument, Applicants respectfully maintain that Liebenow do not anticipate claims 1 and 11, and that claims 1 and 11 are in condition for allowance. Since claims 2, and 4-10 depend from claim 1, and claims 14-20 depend from claim 11, Applicant contends that claims 2, 4-10 and 14-20 are likewise in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 3 and 12-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly being unpatentable over Liebenow et al. in view of Gillespie et al. (US Pat. No. 6,414,671 B1). Since claims 12-13 have been canceled, the rejection of claims 12-13 is moot.

Applicants respectfully contend that claim 3 is not unpatentable over Liebenow in view of Gillespie, because Liebenow in view of Gillespie does not teach or suggest each and every feature of claim 3. For example, Liebenow in view of Gillespie does not teach or suggest the following feature of claim 3: "means for adjusting a first pressure threshold of said touch pad, below which said display is dormant and above which finger positions on said touch pad are displayed".

The Examiner admits that Liebenow does not teach the preceding feature of claim 3. The Examiner alleges that Gillespie teaches the preceding feature of claim 3 in col. 23, lines 40-47. Applicant respectfully contends, however, that col. 23, lines 40-47 of Gillespie teaches: "A finger is present if the pressure exceeds a suitable threshold value. This threshold may be chosen experimentally and is a function of surface material and circuit timing. The threshold may be adjusted to suit the tastes of the individual user." Thus Gillespie only teaches choosing a threshold pressure experimentally or to suit the tastes of the individual user. Gillespie most certainly does not teach "means for adjusting a first pressure threshold of said touch pad, below which said display is dormant and above which finger positions on said touch pad are displayed" as required by claim 3. Since Liebenow does not teach the preceding feature of claim 3, and since Gillespie does not teach the preceding feature of claim 3, Applicants respectfully contend that claim 3 cannot be unpatentable over Liebenow in view of Gillespie. In other words, a modification of Liebenow by the teaching of Gillespie does not teach or suggest the preceding

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P. 12

feature of claim 3.

Based on the preceding argument, Applicant respectfully maintains that claim 3 is not unpatentable over Liebenow in view of Gillespie, and that claim 3 is condition for allowance.

Serial No.: 09/822,440

11

CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below. The Honorable Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 19-0513.

Date: 10/30/2003

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